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PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE,

AND

WEEKLY ADVERTISER.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1779.

PHILADELPHIA.

An ACT *more effectually to prevent counterfeiting the Continental Loan-Office Certificates, the Continental Loan-Office Bills of Exchange, and the Paper Money of the United States of America, or any of them.*

WHEREAS the want of a ſufficient quantity of gold and ſilver, to anſwer the purpoſes of commerce, the exigencies of government, and to carry on the preſent juſt and neceſſary war againſt the King of Great-Britain, induced the Congreſs of the United Colonies and now States of America, and alſo the Aſſemblies, Congreſſes and Conventions of the ſeveral Thirteen Colonies and now States of America, to emit and circulate certain Paper Bills of Credit, to paſs in payments for limited periods, the counterfeiting of which, or the uttering the ſame ſo counterfeited, as and for true, good and genuine bills, knowing the ſame to be ſo counterfeited, hath uſually been made felonies in theſe United States reſpectively.

AND WHEREAS by an Act intituled "An Act for making the Continental Bills of Credit, and the Bills of Credit emitted by reſolves of the late Aſſemblies, legal tender, and for other purpoſes therein mentioned," the counterfeiting of ſuch Paper Bills of credit, or uttering any of them ſo counterfeited, knowing them to be ſuch, which were iſſued before the twenty-eighth day of January, in the year one thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-ſeven, are made felonies of death, without benefit of Clergy; and the counterfeiting the Bills of Credit of this Commonwealth, made and iſſued by virtue of An Act, intituled "An Act for emitting the ſum of two hundred thouſand pounds in Bills of Credit, for the defence of this State, and providing a fund for ſinking the ſame by a tax on all eſtates real and perſonal, and all taxables within the ſame," or emitted and made current by the reſolves of the late Aſſemblies of Pennſylvania, or the uttering ſuch Bills, knowing them to be counterfeit as aforeſaid, is by the ſaid Act made a felony of death, but not ouſting the benefit of Clergy. AND WHEREAS the counterfeiting the Certificates of the Continental Loan-Offices, or any of the Bills of Credit, emitted by the reſolves of the Congreſs of the United States, or ſelling, giving in payment, or otherwiſe uttering or diſtributing any of the ſaid counterfeit Certificates or Bills of Credit, knowing them to be ſuch, is, by an Act intituled "An Act for puniſhing the counterfeiting the Continental Loan-Office Certificates and Lottery Tickets," made a felony of death, not ouſting Clergy; and the counterfeiting any of the ſaid paper Bills of Credit, or Continental Loan-Office Certificates, or uttering any of them, knowing the ſame to be ſo counterfeited, which have iſſued ſince the Twenty-fifth day of May, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy eight, and alſo the counterfeiting or uttering as aforeſaid, any of the Continental Loan-Office Bills of Exchange, is puniſhable only by the common law.

AND WHEREAS it is juſt and right that offences and crimes of equal enormity and guilt ſhould receive the like puniſhments, and it highly intereſts each of the United States, by all means in their power, to provide againſt the debaſing of their medium of commerce;

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania, in General Aſſembly met, and by the authority of the ſame, That from and after the publication of this act, if any perſon or perſons ſhall, within this State or elſewhere, prepare, engrave, ſtamp, forge or print, or cauſe or procure to be prepared, engraved, ſtamped, forged or printed, the counterfeit reſemblance of any Paper Bills of Credit iſſued, emitted or made by the Congreſs of the United States of America, or by the Aſſemblies, Congreſſes, Conventions, or other legiſlative authority of this or of any other of the ſaid States, or which ſhall be iſſued, emitted or made by them reſpectively, on or before the firſt day of January now next enſuing; or of any of the Certificates of the ſeveral Continental Loan-Offices or Continental Loan-Office Bills of Exchange iſſued or made, or which ſhall at any time hereafter be iſſued or made, or ſhall counterfeit or ſign the name or names of the ſigners of any true Bills or Loan-Office Certificates, or Continental Loan-Office Bills of Exchange, to ſuch counterfeit paper, with an intention that ſuch counterfeit paper ſhall be paſſed in payments, or received as genuine and good Bills, Certificates or Bills of Exchange, whether the ſame be ſo paſſed or received or not; or if any perſon or perſons ſhall, in this State, paſs, pay, or tender in payment, any ſuch counterfeit Money or Certificates, or Bills of Exchange, or deliver the ſame to any other perſon or perſons, with an intention that they be paſſed, paid or received as and for good and genuine, knowing the ſame to be forged or counterfeited, every ſuch perſon, being thereof lawfully convicted or attainted in any Court of Oyer and Terminer within this State, by verdict of a jury, or confeſſion of the party offending, or being indicted thereof ſhall ſtand mute, or not directly anſwer to the indictment; or ſhall peremptorily challenge more than the number of twenty perſons legally returned to be of the jury for the trial of ſuch offender, ſhall be adjudged a felon, and ſhall ſuffer death without Benefit of Clergy. And if any perſon or perſons ſhall counterfeit any of the ſaid Bills of Credit, Loan-Office Certificates or Bills of Exchange, by altering the denomination thereof, with deſign to increaſe the value of ſuch Bills, Certificates or Bills of Exchange, or ſhall utter ſuch Bills, Certificates or Bills of Exchange, knowing them to be ſo counterfeited or altered as aforeſaid, and ſhall be thereof legally convicted in any Court of Record in this State, ſuch perſon or perſons ſhall be ſentenced to the pillory, and have both his or her ears cut off and nailed to the pillory, and be publicly whipped on his or her bare back with thirty-nine laſhes, well laid on; and moreover, every ſuch offender ſhall forfeit the ſum of two thouſand pounds, lawful money of Pennſylvania, to be levied on his or her lands and tenements, goods and chattels, the one moiety to the uſe of the State, and the other moiety to the diſcoverer; and the offender ſhall pay to the party grieved double the value of the damages thereby ſuſtained, together with the coſts and charges of proſecution; and in caſe the offender hath not ſufficient to ſatisfy the diſcoverer for his or her damages and charges, and to pay the forfeiture aforeſaid, in ſuch caſe the offender ſhall, by order of the Court where he or ſhe ſhall be convicted, be ſold as a ſervant, for any term not exceeding ſeven years, for ſatisfaction.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That if any perſon or perſons ſhall, within this State, prepare or make any paper, of the ſimilitude or likeneſs of the paper prepared or made for and uſed by the Congreſs of the United States of America, or the perſon or perſons employed by them, for the purpoſe of ſtriking their paper Bills of Credit, Continental Loan-Office Certificates, or Continental Bills of Exchange, upon, and on which the ſame are or ſhall be ſtruck, printed or made; or if any perſon or perſons ſhall, within this State, prepare or make any paper of the ſimilitude or likeneſs of the paper prepared or made for and uſed by the Legiſlative Authority of this State, for the purpoſe of ſtriking their paper money upon, and on which the ſame is or ſhall be printed and made, and ſhall give, ſell, deliver or otherwiſe employ, or willingly ſuffer the ſame to be taken by or delivered, or otherwiſe diſpoſed of to any perſon or perſons whomſoever, except to Congreſs, or to the Legiſlature of this State, or of ſome other of the United States, or to their order, or the order of ſome perſon or perſons authorized by them reſpectively; he, ſhe or they, being legally convicted thereof in any Court of Record in this State, ſhall be impriſoned at the diſcretion of the Court; and moreover, ſhall forfeit all his, her or their goods and chattels, and one moiety of the lands, to the uſe of this Commonwealth.

And be it enacted by the authority aforeſaid, That if any perſon or perſons ſhall take and proſecute any of the herein before mentioned felons to conviction, within this State, upon every ſuch conviction, and procuring a Certificate thereof, under the hands of the Judges before whom the conviction ſhall be, or either of them, which the ſaid Judges are hereby directed and required to give, ſuch perſon or perſons ſhall receive of the Treaſurer of this Commonwealth, the ſum of one hundred pounds lawful money of this State, which the ſaid Treaſurer is hereby directed and required to pay out of the public money in his hands, and the ſame ſhall be allowed to him at the ſettlement of his accounts.

JOHN BAYARD, *Speaker.*

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia, on Friday, the Twenty-ſixth day of November, A. D. One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy nine.

THOMAS PAINE, *Clerk of General Aſſembly.*

In CONGRESS, *November* 19, 1779.

WHEREAS the fluctuating ſtate of prices not only cauſes inequality and injuſtice in private dealings, and in furniſhing the public ſupplies from the ſeveral States, but renders it impracticable to make the proper eſtimates for future expences, and to fix equitable ſalaries for thoſe employed in the ſervice of the United States; and whereas the eſtimates, according to which the requiſitions for the taxes of the ſucceeding year have been made, by the reſolution of the 6th of October, have been formed on the principle that the prices of commodities neceſſary for the public uſe would not exceed twenty fold of the former prices, and ſhould they riſe above that rate the taxes muſt be accordingly encreaſed, but ſhould they fall below it, the ſurplus of the ſum raiſed may be applied to the ſinking fund; therefore,

Reſolved, That it be earneſtly recommended to the ſeveral States, forthwith to enact laws for eſtabliſhing and carrying into execution a general limitation of prices throughout their reſpective juriſdictions, on the following principles, and to commence in their operation from the firſt day of February next.

Articles of domeſtic produce, farming and common labour, the wages of tradeſmen and mechanics, water and land carriage, not to exceed twenty fold of the price current through the various ſeaſons of the year 1774.

Articles imported from foreign parts to be in due proportion with labour and the articles above ſtated, making a proper allowance for freight, inſurance and other charges—Salt and military ſtores, whether of home manufacture or imported from abroad, to be excepted from the limitation of price.

Reſolved, That it be recommended to the ſeveral States to enact ſtrict laws againſt engroſſing and withholding, and to take the neceſſary meaſures for having the ſame carried into full execution.

Reſolved, That all officers and agents employed in making purchaſes for the United States, be directed to conform ſtrictly to all regulations that are or may be eſtabliſhed in the ſeveral ſtates.

That accounts be kept and returns made by all perſons employed to make purchaſes in behalf of the United States, or to hire veſſels, carriages, or men, for the ſervices of the ſame, of the prices by them reſpectively given in ſuch ſtates, as ſhall not before the firſt day of February, 1780, paſs laws for the limitation of prices agreeable to the recommendation contained in the foregoing reſolutions, to the intent that ſuch ſtate as ſhall have neglected to paſs laws for the purpoſes aforeſaid, may reſpectively be charged in the public accounts with the aggregate accounts of the difference of prices paid from and after the ſaid firſt day of February, 1780, in ſuch ſtates, and thoſe in which ſuch laws may have been enacted. *Extract from the Minutes,*

(Copy) CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary.*

TUTORS WANTED,

In the ſeveral SCHOOLS *of the* UNIVERSITY *in* PHILADELPHIA.

TUTORS, qualified to teach the *Latin Language, Engliſh, Writing, Arithmetic* and the *Mathematics*, are wanted at the Univerſity in Philadelphia. Such Perſons as ſhall think proper to offer their Services in this Seminary of Learning, which it is intended ſhall be put on the moſt reſpectable Footing, are deſired to apply to the Rev. Dr. EWING, the Rev. Mr. WHITE, and the Rev. Mr. WEIBERG, a Committee appointed by the Truſtees for this Purpoſe.

THE Commiſſioners for the city and county of Philadelphia, take this method to inform the taxable inhabitants of ſaid county of the days of appeal, and where held, for the firſt Continental Tax for the Year 1779.

For Lower Merion, Lower Dublin, Kingſeſſing and Paſſyunk, in the upper chamber of the Court-houſe, on Monday, the 27th December 1779.

For Blockley, Oxford, Briſtol and Cheltenham, on Tueſday the 28th.

For North, High Street and Upper Delaware Wards, on Wedneſday the 29th.

For Dock, Walnut, Cheſtnut and Lower Delaware Wards, on Thurſday the 30th.

For the Northern Liberties, Eaſt and Weſt, and Moyamenſing, on Friday the 31ſt.

For Mulberry, South and Middle Wards, on Monday, the 10th of January next.

For the following townſhips, at the houſe of Jacob Wentz, jun. in Worceſter townſhip; viz.

For Providence, Marlborough, Frederick, Upper and Lower Salford, Upper Hanover and Hatfield townſhips, on Tueſday, the 4th of January next.

For Douglaſs, Upper Merion, Whitpain, Frankford and New Hanover, Limerick, Perkiomen and Skippack, Gwinedth, Montgomery and Franconia townſhips, on Wedneſday, the 5th of January.

For Plymouth, Norriton, Worceſter and Towamenſing townſhips, on Thurſday, the 6th.

For the remaining townſhips at the houſe of John Heſſer, in Germantown, viz.

For Upper Dublin, Horſham, Whitemarſh, Roxborough, Biberry and Springfield townſhips, on Friday, the 7th of January next.

For Germantown, Manor of Moreland and Abington townſhips, on Saturday, the 8th.

The appeals to begin each day at nine o'clock in the morning.

All perſons having eſtates in townſhips or wards where they do not reſide will take notice, that there is no tranſfer of property, each eſtate muſt pay the tax in the townſhip or ward where it is. It is expected that all perſons intending to appeal will attend on the days appointed, as they cannot be heard any other time, it being abſolutely neceſſary that the tax be collected and paid into the Treaſury with the utmoſt expedition.

By Order of the Board,

GEORGE HONEY, junior, Clerk.

NOTICE is hereby given to all whom it may in anywiſe concern, That NATHANIEL FALCONER and JOHN REDMAN preferred a petition to the Honourable the Repreſentatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania, in General Aſſembly met, ſome time ſince, praying a law might paſs for ſhutting up a road laid out through Nathaniel Falconer's land, in the townſhip of the Northern Liberties, in the county of Philadelphia, from the Wiſſahiccon road to another road leading from the Falls of Schuylkill to Germantown. So that all thoſe who think themſelves injured by it, are deſired to make their objections at the next ſitting of the General Aſſembly, and ſhew cauſe, if any they have, why a law ſhould not paſs for ſhutting up the ſaid road. *6w.

Dilworth's Spelling-Books, by the Dozen or ſingle,

To be ſold by *HALL* and *SELLERS.*

From the NEW-JERSEY JOURNAL.

Mr. KOLLOCK,

UPON the first appearance of your correspondent *Eumenes*, the only injury I expected from his publication was, the expence of printing and time lost in reading it. But, to my surprize, I find his scheme has had the same mischievous effect upon the minds of many worthy persons, with that of his predecessor, *the True Patriot*. Some indeed have been so weak as to suppose he was an agent for Congress, to prepare the way for their breaking public faith, by killing the money suddenly in the pockets of the possessors. How any man, who feels the influence of honour in himself, or knows the sacredness of national faith, can adopt *Eumenes*'s plan, or think Congress capable of it, is beyond my conception; especially after the solemn declaration lately published by Congress, which testified their proper abhorrence of that destructive act of political wickedness. This slander therefore becomes highly criminal, as it stabs not an innocent individual, but that innocent and important being, *public credit*.

I shall spare myself and you the trouble of remarks upon *Eumenes*'s letters, except that sentiment of killing the money and sinking it at the discount of fifteen or twenty for one. 'Tis this which alarmed the people and added to the depreciation of the money, from an apprehension that its death was near.

The troubled man seems himself to fluctuate among the phantoms of his own mind, hardly daring to wed either: Yet, upon the whole, he ventures to reject the plan of sinking the money by taxes, and embraces that of exchange. But how? He rightly concludes it will not answer to give a silver dollar for every depreciated paper one. He will therefore have *new* paper dollars made, one of which shall redeem 15 or 20 *old* ones. But what will make those new dollars better than the old? Our author may say his *hocus pocus* over them seven times seven, but if the war continue—if the same measures are pursued—and weak minds continue doubtful of our Independence being secure—especially, if we have such writers as the *Patriot* and *Eumenes* to persuade people that nineteen twentieths of the public debt will be wiped off, by killing so much of the money in every man's hand—if these causes exist, the new bills will go faster down hill than the old ones.

Suppose we should now bring the scales of *justice* and *equity*, to weigh Eumenes's plan, how will it appear. It must be acknowledged, that the only rule for paying a public debt is, by levying it upon the property of those on whose account it was contracted, in proportion to the capital sum or yearly value owned by the individuals. But can any one suppose, that the property or income of the members of the State is determined by the money on hand at any given day? A man has 20,000l. in cash to-day. This is his whole estate. By a lucky purchase he is worth 40,000l. to-morrow, but has no money. If this day is the black period for sinking the money, he pays 19,000l. to discharge the public debt; but if it is to-morrow, although he is twice as rich, he pays nothing. Another has purchased to the amount of 20,000l. and given his obligation: He has been saving with care to make up the sum, or perhaps borrowed it, but in the mean time nineteen twentieths of it is put to death----what will he do? And what will the foreigners do, who have sold their cargoes and taken our money? Never would they touch another of our paper dollars. The *monopolizers* and *forestallers* will generally go scot free, as the money rests but a little time in their hands. And no doubt those sly fellows who are to pass this sentence of death, will take care first to get rid of their cash. But the rare diversion will be, that giving *hints* to their friends of what is to be will let the cat out of the bag, and the nimble creature will move more rapidly and raise a greater noise than Howe and his army in the fall of seventy-six.

Eumenes, it seems, reprobates sinking the money by taxes, yet hath proposed the most horrid tax that can well be thought of. Does his calling it an *exchange* alter the fact, while nineteen twentieths of every man's cash is taken from him at once, to lessen the public debt. This is a tax indeed.

Will you ask, how is the money to be sunk? Pray how did we use to sink the money emitted in time of war? But *one* method has been practised, and I am persuaded no other one ever was or ever will be thought of by Congress; which was, to call in the money as fast as peoples circumstances would admit, and destroy it. The money was made on the public account, to purchase what the public needed. When the necessity of public purchases ceases, the money thus emitted becomes unnecessary. To call in all at once would be inconvenient to the public. It is therefore to be done gradually. Every state will know its quota of the debt, which is discharged by destroying so much money; and every legislature will do this at such times, and in such ways, as the people can best bear. The errors of one tax are corrected in the next, and as the money lessens in quantity, it rises in value. If Eumenes can exhibit a better plan, without writing more volumes than contain the Universal History, or the Statutes of England, he will exceed the wisdom of past ages.

I have only to beseech my fellow citizens not to be so easily shaken with the wind of political writers. The Congress are embarked in the same bottom with us. They must try to save the vessel for their own sakes. Or should they at any time violate the great rules of justice, and attempt to subvert the government, we have them in our power. Our Freedom and Independence rest not with them. The government is established upon the authority, and is in the power, of the people.

UNSHAKEN.

FOR THE PENNSYLVANIA GAZETTE.

NUMBER XIX.

THE advantages are many which have resulted from the expedition of our ally to the coast of the continent this season. The movement has been felt, not in the state of Georgia only, but to the most remote distance. From the first arrival of the Count, fear and apprehension spread themselves on the wings of every pulse of air. The cannon discharged in that state were heard in every post of the enemy to the northward. Figuratively, they received a shock, and were made to tremble and collect themselves, as when a knight in romance, coming to a castle or a city, commands a horn to be sounded, and the dwarfs scamper on the battlements. The shock was felt at New-York, and in Rhode-island especially. The town of Newport, which had before cost us two campaigns, one under General Spencer, and one under General Sullivan, in a fruitless attempt to reduce, was now evacuated. It was not to be wished by the enemy, that the Count should have it in his power to attack the two posts of New-York and Rhode-Island separately. Their junction was necessary, in order to defend themselves; and what General Spencer, with a formidable body of militia, had it not in his power to effect, and General Sullivan, with a body of the best continental troops, did not find it possible to accomplish, and General Gates, thro' the whole of this season, thought it not prudent to attempt, has now been done by the approach of the Count to the coast of this continent. It has been done, though he has remained in Georgia.

At New-York the enemy were in continual trepidation. The armed vessels have been retained in the harbour to assist, with the fort and the batteries on the wharves, to defend the city. From this circumstance, our merchantmen from the several ports have been at liberty to pass through the seas in safety. In the mean time, the grand army of the enemy has been under the necessity of relinquishing the campaign which they had projected, and in which they had advanced considerably, having established several posts upon the North River. The affair of Stony-Point, and the arrival of the Count, obliged them to fall back, and to reside, like a broken wave, on the shores of the York island. It has been owing to the seasonable, though distant movement of our ally, that many settlements of New-York, Connecticut and Jersey, have been safe from the ravage of the enemy. It is true our army was at hand to repress their attack; but in the circling manœuvres and fluctuating movements of the war, seeking and avoiding an engagement, the intermediate ground is over-run, and the miserable inhabitants suffer almost as much from the unavoidable company of their friends, as from the hostile presence of their enemies. Besides, if an enemy is repulsed, it is with the loss of brave men, even to those who are victorious. Our army, weakened by the detachment of a considerable body of our troops to the westward under General Sullivan, were not, for some months, in full force to receive the enemy. It has been happy that, in these circumstances, the British troops have been under the necessity of falling back to the environs of New-York, to defend themselves against the expected blockade of the Count D'Estaing on the one side, and of our army on the other. That the above was the case, will appear from a survey of the circumstances; and I find it to be observed by a gentleman who writes from Elizabeth-Town, New Jersey, an extract of whose letter has appeared in the Gazette of that state. "The Count D'Estaing, says he, although he has not been successful at Savanna, yet has made a most powerful diversion in our favour, by keeping the British mercenaries at New-York and its dependencies, with a train of tories and refugees, constantly harrassed in throwing up various works, and sinking vessels in the Narrows and at the Hook, they being in daily expectation of his arrival there for two months past; but the vessels which they sunk have chiefly drifted away with the current."

In Georgia, the war, on the part of the enemy, in consequence of the arrival of the Count, has been changed from offensive to defensive. The reinforcement intended for that state has been retained on Rhode-Island and New-York; for while the Count was master of the seas, no reinforcement could be sent thither. If it had arrived, it would have been unequal to the task of instituting a campaign against the combined and superior force under General Lincoln and the Count in those parts. We may justly reckon it the consequence of the movement of our ally to this quarter, that the enemy, confined to Savanna, have not been able to make their way once more to the walls of Charles-Town, and with repeated devastation of the country through which they might propose to pass. The campaign in Georgia has been crushed, and the enemy have thought themselves happy that they have been able to defend themselves. They have not been able to assist their allies, the Creek Indians, who have been subdued by General Williamson, in his expedition to the frontier settlements. It was pleasant enough to see the vindictive Prevost, and the more active Colonel Maitland, with the troops under their command, meditating incursion, depredation and conquest, but obliged to sit down in the town of Savanna, with watching, with labour, and with the spectacle of the vessels falling into our hands, which were intended for their assistance in money, cloathing, and other necessaries. Many vessels were captured, and the military chest itself, on board the Experiment, was a considerable prize, and must have been a radical injury to their future operations. The prisoners we have taken, both on board the vessels and on the land, have been a compensation for the trouble the enemy have given us, and will considerably reduce their force in that quarter. In Ogechee river, particularly, five armed vessels, having taken shelter from the Count d'Estaing, and having the remaining part of the Sunbury garrison on board, officers and privates, one hundred and forty-one in all, have fallen into our hands, by the address of Colonel White of that State.

That the assault on Savannah did not succeed, has been owing "to the strength of the enemy in that garrison; to the unavoidable delay, on our part, in bringing up proper cannon and mortars from the fleet, which took up many days, and was attended with inconceivable difficulties, on account of the distance of the shipping, and a series of tempestuous weather; to the activity of Colonel Maitland in throwing up works, so that having, as it were, burrowed his troops in the sand, the tops of their tents being not more than on a level with the parapets, they were safe from the cannonade. It was farther owing to the enemy having discovered, by some means, the approach of our columns a full hour before it was possible for them to reach their respective stations; by which they had an opportunity of pouring upon their assailants such a heavy and incessant front, flank, and cross fire, as no troops whatever could have sustained without being disordered, and occasioned the order for discontinuing the assault, even while the brave French troops had gained one of the enemy's works, and our as brave troops another."

I am happy to find that the inhabitants of the southern states, and even those of Georgia, whose wishes were warmest in the assault of the town of Savannah, whose disappointment was greatest in the event of it, and who were most likely to repine and be dissatisfied with the counsels and conduct of those engaged in it, are, nevertheless, fully composed in their minds, and perfectly persuaded that all has been done that could be done in that enterprise. This is indeed a full evidence of it; for it is natural for men, when they are disappointed in any of their expectations, to seek for the causes, not in things, but in persons. It is easy to say that it has been owing to the bad council or the bad conduct of this or that man; but it requires general observation to perceive how much arises from the nature of the circumstances, which the wit of man could not have managed otherwise. Unless the wisdom of a measure is incontestibly clear and striking, if it is unfortunate, it will be said to have been imprudent. Unless the ability and spirit with which it may have been conducted is obvious to all, and forces approbation, it will in some instances be called in question. I am therefore happy to find that the most perfect approbation is given by every mouth, to the conduct both of our ally and of our own troops in their operations in the state of Georgia. A gentleman, an inhabitant of that state, but now in Charles-town, writes to his friend in Philadelphia, to the following purpose: "Our allies have done every thing in their power for the recovery of this country, but we cannot expect them to perform impossibilities. On all occasions the Count d'Estaing shewed himself a brave man, and acted in every respect consistent with the dignity of his character, as a nobleman of a distinguished family, and as a gentleman whose best wishes were most ardent for the good and protection of the United States. He remained with us much longer than he at first proposed, and as he was in want of many things, absolutely necessary for his army, it appeared evident to me that he was obliged to leave us. Nothing would have given him greater pleasure than to have gathered laurels on these sandy plains, and in my opinion it would have been the case, if the American army had been more numerous. In my former letters I have hinted to you how highly General Lincoln is esteemed for his prudence and merit, and that if he had been properly supported with men, since he has been on this command, he would long ago have taken Prevost and all his plundering adventurers. You are sensible of the difficulties an officer must labour under whose army is principally composed of militia, who are continually going and coming, and very averse to military discipline. What man can do he has done, and the anxiety he has endured in this service is much greater than I can describe."

I collect these testimonies of my countrymen with pleasure, because it is an evidence of our good sense and gratitude, and it must be an encouragement to our allies, and to our own officers to labour for a people, whose approbation is not fixed, like that of an ignorant and undiscerning multitude, meerly on good fortune, but who are capable of distinguishing what is praise worthy, even though it is not crowned with every advantage of success. I shall only add, as an evidence of this, that acknowledgment which we find in the message from the President, &c. of Pennsylvania, to the Representatives, &c. in General Assembly met, and which is as follows: "The seasonable and generous assistance of the Count d'Estaing, and the gallant force under his command, though not attended with all the success which our sanguine expectations suggested, may justly be reckoned among the happy events of the year, as it has disconcerted the plans of the enemy, been attended with success in capturing many of their vessels, and is, in every respect, a fresh proof of the magnanimity and attention of our allies, which will justly endear them to every lover of his country." These acknowledgments, and this general sense of America, must strike the minds of the enemy with discouragement; for, no doubt, they had hoped much from that disposition to repine and find fault, which springs up in the minds of men after an unsuccessful enterprise. They will now see that not the least disposition of this kind exists amongst us. Indeed there is no reason that it should exist. The expidition, notwithstanding our repulse, must upon the whole be accounted fortunate. If we could put it in the power of the enemy to chuse, whether matters should be as they now are, or that the Count had not arrived at all, certainly they would chuse to have been without his company. What is the small honour of having defended themselves in the town of Savannah, to the hope which they had entertained of over-running half the southern settlements, by means of reinforcements thrown in to the troops in Georgia; and at the same time of making a vigorous campaign with their main army to the northward. It is their part to push their operations. It is our part to impede them. They have not pushed their operations. We have impeded them. They are therefore disappointed, not we. We have done all that ought to have been expected to be done. The event will discover that we are successful. In the whole history of this war, our enemy will lament no circumstance more than the arrival of the Count d'Estaing in Georgia.

The Count himself has personally shewn the most undaunted courage, and the most ardent zeal in our service. If he has not accomplished all that his good-will had prompted him to wish to accomplish, yet he has left behind him the firmest persuasion, in the mind of every American, that he is anxiously disposed to promote the great object of the alliance, our independence; and that he will endeavour to be yet more essentially useful to us, whether by striking a blow in the West Indies, or by returning to the Continent in a proper season.

THE HONEST POLITICIAN.

From a late LONDON PAPER.

To the PRINTER.

SIR,

A GENERAL meeting of the noblemen and gentlemen of the county of Oxford having been advertised to be held at the Star Inn, In the city of Oxford, on Wednesday last, to consider of a subscription, I thought it my duty to attend, in order to deliver my sentiments upon the occasion; but being prevented from doing so, by finding that the meeting was intended for those only who would subscribe, and that the sense of the county was not to be taken, I send you a copy of those sentiments which I should have delivered, for your publication, that the county might know my reasons for not subscribing. I am, Sir, your very humble servant,

Cheltenham, July 30. ABINGDON.

HAVING upon a former occasion not only objected to the addressing the throne with my life and fortune, for the purpose of carrying on the wicked plot of government that had been formed, as well against the liberties of our once fellow-subjects in America (now alas! by such means no more our fellow-subjects) as against the constitution of this happy country (unhappy in its submission to such measures) but did, on the contrary, unite with many others, of the same opinion with myself, in petitioning his Majesty to avert the evil from us; and as the self-same reasons that then influenced my conduct, so far from being removed, still exist in redoubled strength, I shall, I trust, stand in need of no apology for myself, in declining to give any aid or assistance to the plan of subscription that has been set on foot, and is now before us.

I am aware, indeed, of the general argument, "of the present necessity of union," and of the particular application of that argument to me, "that I am opposing the efforts of this country in its own defence;" but I am disturbed by neither argument, nor am I to be moved by them.

With respect to the first argument, the situation in which we are, is the very description of the situation in which government meant to place us. I have heard the doctrine avowed. You will have, it is said, a French and Spanish war, and then self preservation will force us to unite. So that government having in the beginning acted wickedly and unwisely, in the end the whole nation is to become partakers of their guilt. This may be good modern policy for ought I know, but I am sure it is such logic, and such morality, as the university of Oxford will not teach, nor the county set the example of.

With respect to the second argument, "that I am opposing the efforts of this country in its own defence," I say God forbid! I would have every nerve and sinew brought into action; but it should be first to remove our *domestic* enemies, and then to crush our *foreign* foes. It is not France nor Spain I fear. They are open enemies, and are in our front. It is our secret enemies, and those that hang on our backs, that rouse my apprehensions; enemies, by whose stratagems and machinations we shall lose the only thing worth fighting for—*the liberties of this country.*

I have thought it necessary to say so much upon the present occasion, in discharge of the duty which I owe to my country and to myself. The rest I leave to yourselves.

CHARLES-TOWN, *(South-Carolina) Nov.* 5.

Extract of a letter from Silver Bluff, October 28.

"By the unwearied endeavours of Mr. Galphin, the Indians are peaceable; a party of the headmen of the Lower Creeks, who over-awed the rest, are now at Mr. Galphin's cow-pen on Ogechee, and will be here in a few days. The Spaniards lately came from Cuba to St. Mark's, near the Apalachee Old Fields, conferred with the Creeks, sent to each town of the nation Spanish pipes and tobacco, and five kegs of rum, as tokens of friendship; at the same time charging them always to hold the Americans firmly by the hand, as they, the French and we were united in a triple band of friendship, and would jointly revenge any injury that might be offered to either of the parties."

Nov. 10. Last Wednesday arrived here from Georgia, the sloop Earl of Kilruthery (late Capt. Skene) mounting 12 4 pounders, and the sloop Lady Granby (late Capt. Karr) mounting 10 4 pounders, both privateers, fitted out from New-York, the armed schooner Peggy and Polly (late Capt. Wright) laden with rice, and the schooner Sally (late Capt. Hill) laden with salt, being 4 of the 5 prizes taken by Col. White, and 6 others, in the night of the 30th of September last, at Savage's Point in Ogeachie river, together with 141 British prisoners [as mentioned in this paper of the 10th of November.] The fifth prize was not in a condition to bring away: But Col. White has replaced her, by the schooner Sally (late Capt. Newcom) from Providence for New-York, which he took on his passage from the Ogeachie hither, and has also brought her in safe; the cargo consists of melasses, sugar and fruit, and she had on board as passengers, Doctor Thomas Young of the British Hospitals, Mr. Fullom a merchant, and Capt. Hatch (a relation of the Hon. Major General Lincoln) a prisoner to the enemy. There were also some dispatches on board, from his Excellency Governor Brown to the Lords Commissioners, which had been thrown into the cabouse to be burnt, but by the activity of some of the Colonel's people were saved and fell into his hands.

WILLIAMSBURG, December 4.

Extract of a letter from St. Eustatia, dated Nov. 12.

"A packet from England is arrived at Antigua, by which we are just informed that an entire change in the Ministry has taken place; and that Lord Howe commands the fleet in the channel, consisting of 50 sail of the line."

BOSTON, November 22.

We hear that a brig, laden with wine, prize to the Gen. Mifflin privateer, of this port, taken three months ago, arrived at Cape Cod last Saturday. She has been beating the seas ever since she was first taken, and had but six pounds of bread on board when she arrived.

NEW-HAVEN, November 24.

Monday se'ennight two small privateers, of four guns each, commanded by Captains Lockwood and Johnson, ran into Oyster-Bay, under British colours, where were four wood vessels, under protection of a large eight gun brig, who asked the privateers where from? and on being answered from New-York, they were permitted to run along side the brig unsuspected, and boarding her, the people were surprized into an immediate surrender, without even firing a gun, though manned with twenty stout fellows, on which the other vessels also submitted, and were all brought out of port destined for Norwalk or Stamford, but on being pursued by some armed vessels from Huntington harbour, the brig unluckily ran on a reef of rocks near Norwalk harbour, and fell again into the enemy's hands, who got her off and took her away; the other prizes got safe into port.

FISH-KILL, December 9.

By intelligence from Stratford we learn, that on the 4th ult. about 25 volunteers, under the command of Captains Lockwood, Hawley, Jones, and Lieutenants Jackson and Bishop, set off from Newfield harbour, on an expedition to Long-Island, to fetch off Thomas Jones, Esq; one of the Judges of their Supreme Court, and a warm loyalist. They crossed the Sound that evening, arrived at Stony-Brook, near Smithtown, and then marched for Fort Nick (said Jones's place of residence) where they arrived the 6th, about 9 o'clock in the evening, being 52 miles, and, after surprizing the house, took said Jones prisoner; in consequence of which an alarm arose, which obliged our men to retreat, travelling 30 miles the same evening, and secrete themselves the next day, by which time the enemy's light-horse were near; the following evening they retreated to their boats, having taken two prisoners more, crossed the Sound, and arrived safe at Black-Rock, in Fairfield, on the 8th, except six men, who, being in the rear, were taken by the light-horse.

PHILADELPHIA, *December* 15.

Extract of letter from Baltimore, dated Dec. 11.

"Captain Yellet arrived here yesterday morning from St. Eustatia, in thirteen days. By him Mr. P------- sent me an English paper of the first of October. In this paper is an account of Captain Paul Jones having, with a small squadron from France under his command, entered into the Humber and burnt sixteen sail of valuable vessels at the very pier-heads of Hull, which had occasioned the greatest consternation. Shortly after he fell in with the Baltic fleet, in sight of the coast, under convoy of the Serapis man of war of 44 guns, and the Scarborough of 24, both of which he had taken in sight of thousands of spectators from the shore, and by the latest accounts was left picking up the merchant ships as fast as he could. Three different squadrons were said to be sent in pursuit of him. Jones had been on the coasts of Ireland and Scotland, and frightened them as much as the famous Thurot did in the last war. By the English papers it appears, that the combined fleet was gone into Brest, and the British into Portsmouth, during the equinoctial season, and both said to be preparing for sea again.

"A French polacre is arrived here from Cadiz; by her officers it is reported, and I believe truly, that the Spaniards have blocked up Gibraltar with 24 sail of the line, and 24,000 troops. They also report, that there was great desertion from the garrison of the foreign troops, who said they were at half allowance. The Ardent was not sunk, as was reported, but taken."

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman of undoubted character and veracity, to his friend in this city, dated at Alicant, September 21, 1779.

"The combined fleets of France and Spain is composed of 66 ships of the line, besides frigates, bomb-ketches and fire-ships, well manned and provided with every necessary: They are in pursuit of Admiral Hardy's fleet, composed of 41 ships of the line, besides frigates, who avoid an engagement with such a superior force. They have nevertheless taken four British ships of 64 and 74 guns.

"There are 500 transports ready for sea, on the coast of Brittanny, who are to take on board 60,000 choice troops in order to land them in England.

"Gibraltar is besieged by 20,000 picked Spanish troops, who are advancing their trenches; that port is also blocked up by a squadron of the same nation, to prevent any succours going in, and the British are so engaged on all sides that they cannot attempt it.

"The Emperor of Morroco has absolutely refused the permission required by England to extract cattle and wheat from his dominions, and on the contrary our fleet and army at Gibraltar are daily supplied from them with cattle and bread in the greatest abundance."

Married, on Monday evening last, in this city, Colonel ELISHA LAWRENCE, of Jersey, to Miss BECKY REDMAN, (second daughter of the late JOSEPH REDMAN, Esq;) a young lady whose superior beauty, joined with an elegance both of person and manners, render her justly admired by all who have the pleasure of her acquaintance.

Board of Trustees of the University, Dec. 11, 1779.

Present His Excellency JOSEPH REED, Esq; President of the Board, and sixteen other Members.

Resolved, That this Board will meet on Thursday evening next, at six o'clock, at the Library Room in the University, then and there to chuse a Vice Provost of the University; a Professor of Astronomy; and a Professor of Natural and Experimental Philosophy.

Resolved, That the foregoing resolve be published in the several news-papers in the city, in order that the Trustees may have due notice thereof, and give their attendance accordingly.

Extract from the Minutes,

T. MATLACK.

Note, there are in nomination four Candidates for the office of Vice Provost: three for the Professorship of Astronomy; and two for the Professorship of Natural and Experimental Philosophy. The time of electing a Provost is not yet agreed on.

An ACT to repeal part of an Act, intitled "An Act, for making more equal the burthen of the public defence, and for filling the quota of troops to be raised in this State," and to continue for a longer time the Act, intitled "An Act to impower the Supreme Executive Council and Justices of the Supreme Court to apprehend suspected persons, and increase the fines to which persons are liable, for neglecting to perform their tour of militia duty."

WHEREAS in and by the Act first above mentioned, a double tax was annually imposed upon all estates real and personal, of every person not subject to, nor performing military duty, by the militia law of this State, which is found by experience to be burthensome and inconvenient.

Be it therefore enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the Freemen of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same, That so much of the said Act, as imposes double taxes upon any person or persons whatsoever, be, and is hereby repealed and made void, any thing in the said Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

AND WHEREAS an Act passed the last session of the late Assembly, intitled "An Act to impower the Supreme Executive Council, and Justices of the Supreme Court, to apprehend suspected persons, and to increase the fines to which persons are liable for neglecting to perform their tour of militia duty" will expire at the end of the present session of this Assembly, and it is necessary that the same should be continued for a longer time.

Be it therefore further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That the said Act, intitled "An Act to impower the Supreme Executive Council, and Justices of the Supreme Court, to apprehend suspected persons, and to increase the fines to which persons are liable for neglecting to perform their tour of militia duty," be, and the same is hereby declared to be in full force and virtue, for and during the space of six months from the publication of this Act, unless the war between the United States of America and Great-Britain shall sooner cease, and no longer.

JOHN BAYARD, *Speaker.*

Enacted into a Law at Philadelphia, on Saturday, the twenty-seventh day of November, A. D. One thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine.

THOMAS PAINE, *Clerk of General Assembly.*

In COUNCIL, *Philadelphia, Dec.* 3, 1779.

WHEREAS, by a late Act of Assembly, this Board is authorised and required to reserve such, and so many of the confiscated estates, as may be necessary to create a fund for the support of the Provost, and other officers of the University of the State:

Resolved therefore, That the Agents postpone any farther sales of the said estates, until the above reservation is made, or further order given in the premises.

Resolved, That the Agents compleat the sales already made, and if any persons have failed to comply with the terms of sale, the premises be deemed the property of the State, as specified in the said terms, and taken into possession by the Agents accordingly.

And whereas the State is bound to warrantee the lands and real estates sold under its authority, it is therefore our indispensible duty to have such estates duly and properly described, that future litigation may be prevented, and the State not farther responsible than for the estates actually sold, and value received: Wherefore,

Resolved, That the Agents, together with a certificate of the receipt of the purchase money, send a particular discription of the land or other premises duly signed by them, and in case of doubt or difficulty, Surveyors to be employed, and return to be made accordingly, in which cases their deeds will be immediately executed.

Extract from the Minutes.

Published by order of the Council,

T. MATLACK, *Secretary.*

December 15, 1779.

TO BE LET,

And entered on immediately,

The BUNCH of GRAPES Tavern,

In Third street, between Market and Arch streets: Enquire of JOHN BENEZET, at the North-East Corner of Front and Pine-streets. ‡

New-Castle, November 22, 1779.

WHEREAS the messuages, lands, goods and chattels of Charles Gordon, Jacob Dirrickson, Joshua North, John Allman, Christopher Willson, John Gregory and Isaac Attwood, all late of the county aforesaid, forfeited to the Delaware State by virtue of an Act of Assembly thereof, have been sold by the Commissioner appointed for that purpose. This is therefore to notify all persons claiming any right or title to, interest in, or profits arising out of any messuages, lands or tenements, sold as the property of any of the persons afore-named, or having any accounts, debts or demands against any of the said persons, that the Justices of the Court of Common Pleas for the County of New-Castle will sit at the Court-house in the town of New-Castle, on Wednesday, the 19th of January next, as well to receive the claims of any person or persons respecting the title of any messuages, lands or tenements, or any part thereof, so sold as aforesaid, as to adjust and settle any accounts, debts, dues or demands against all or any of the persons aforenamed, whose estates have become forfeited as aforesaid, according to the directions of an act of Assembly of the said State.

By order of the Court aforesaid,

GUNNING BEDFORD, Prothonotary.

Philadelphia, December 10, 1779.

FORTY DOLLARS Reward.

STRAYED or STOLEN out of the subscriber's pasture in the Northern Liberties, near this City, a brown milch COW, having a white spot in her forehead, white across her shoulders, with a brown spot in the white, white under her belly, and also white hind feet and tail; she is a remarkable small cow, and the horns particularly are very small and bending inwards, and has a very large bag. Whoever will bring the said cow to the subscriber shall have the above reward of Forty Dollars, and reasonable charges; and whoever will give him information where the said cow may be found shall receive Thirty Dollars reward, from

‡ WILLIAM VAN PHUL.

One Hundred Dollars Reward.

WAS stolen out of the stable of the subscriber, living in East-Fallowfield township, Chester county, on the third night of December, a light BAY HORSE, fourteen hands and a half high, five years old rising six, he has a small star in his forehead, and is what they call deer-hipt, is remarkably high on the shoulder, looks very gloomy when going to be catched, and is ill to take the bits; he is a natural trotter. Whoever takes up and secures said Horse, so that the owner gets him again, shall receive SIXTY DOLLARS, or the above Reward for Horse and Thief, and reasonable charges, paid by

* ANDREW OLIPHANT.

CAME to the Plantation of JOHN HANNIS, in Passyunk township, two small BULLS. The owner is desired to come, prove property, pay charges and take them away.

CAME to the PLANTATION of the SUBSCRIBER, in Cheltenham township, about the twentieth of last month, a large WHITE HORSE. The owner is desired to come, prove property, pay charges and take him away. THOMAS CARROLL. *Dec.* 10. *

A CLARICHORD FOR SALE.

Enquire of the PRINTERS.

An Office for the Sale of Real Eſtates

IS now kept by the ſubſcribers, in Race-ſtreet, between Front and Second-ſtreets, in the city of Philadelphia, where deeds, wills, mortgages, bonds and other inſtruments of writing are carefully and accurately drawn, by and under the direction and inſpection of Peter Thomſon, who has had long experience in that buſineſs, and who will, upon application, carefully examine titles to lands, and point out the defect, if any, to the poſſeſſors of deeds, and inform ſuch what will be neceſſary to remedy ſuch defect.

All perſons having real eſtates, ſuch as houſes and lots, plantations, meadow-ground, paſture lots, yearly rent-charges, and improved and unimproved lands to ſell and diſpoſe of, are deſired to give in writing a true deſcription of the houſes, improvements and quality of the lands and lots, and the loweſt prices they will take, in order that purchaſers may have an opportunity of ſpeedy information, attended with as little trouble as poſſible, and contracts confirmed without delay, by applying to either of the ſubſcribers at their office, or at the Coffee-houſe. Thoſe who pleaſe to favour them in placing their money out at intereſt, may be aſſured they will take the greateſt care in procuring them undoubted ſecurity by mortgage or otherwiſe. And they beg leave to return their thanks to thoſe gentlemen in particular who have favoured them with the ſale of their real eſtates, &c. and requeſt a continuance of their favour, and ſhall at all times be obliging to purchaſers.

PETER THOMSON,
RICHARD ARMITT.

N. B. They have houſes and lots in and near the city of Philadelphia, and divers plantations and tracts of land in Pennſylvania, New-Jerſey, Delaware and Virginia States, for ſale. ‡

WHEREAS the Honourable the Supreme Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Pennſylvania hath been pleaſed to appoint the ſubſcriber Auctioneer of the city of Philadelphia, according to an act of General Aſſembly paſſed the 26th ult. entituled, "An Act for the effectual ſuppreſſion of public auctions and vendues, &c. HE therefore takes this earlieſt opportunity of informing the public: And that his ſtore, at the corner of Front and South-ſtreets, will be open for the reception of all ſuch goods as are to be diſpoſed of agreeable to ſaid act, where conſtant attendance will be given, until a more central ſtore can be procured, which will be as ſoon as poſſible. He likewiſe will give his attendance at the Coffee-houſe (in Coffee-houſe hours) when he may be ſpoke with, attend ſales there, or where it may beſt ſuit the owners of ſuch property as the ſaid act admits of for ſale. And the public may be aſſured that, with a ſtrict adherence to ſaid act, every thing for their ſatisfaction reſpecting ſaid office will be done, in the power of their moſt obedient humble ſervant,

Dec. 4, 1779. WILLIAM BROWN, Auctioneer. ‡

Eaſt Whiteland, Cheſter County, December 3, 1779.

CAME to the ſtables of the ſubſcriber, on the 24th day of November laſt, a ſorrel MARE, ſuppoſed to be five years old this graſs, neither brand nor ear-mark, has a ſmall blaze down her forehead, trots altogether. The owner is deſired to come to the ſign of Admiral Warren, on Lancaſter road, prove his property, pay charges and take her away, otherwiſe ſhe will be ſold, agreeable to the laws of this State.

§ PETER MATHER.

CAME to the plantation of the Subſcriber, living in Upper Dublin townſhip, Philadelphia county, on the 11th of November, 1779, A BAY HORSE. The owner is deſired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take him away. JACOB HONNOLD. ¶

ALL perſons indebted to the eſtate of ABRAHAM HASSELBERRY, late of the city of Philadelphia, deceaſed, are requeſted to make immediate payment; and thoſe that have any demands againſt ſaid eſtate are deſired to bring in their accounts, in order to be ſettled and paid, by

ELIZABETH HASSELBERRY, Adminiſtratrix. †

WAS impreſſed by Samuel Boutcher, Waggon-maſter, living in the Manor of Moreland, Philadelphia county, A light brown ſtray HORSE, about eight years old, a few white hairs on his forehead, and grey hairs at the root of his tail, a natural pacer. The owner is deſired to come, prove property, pay charges, and take him away, otherwiſe he will be ſold according to law.

Nov. 3, 1779. SAMUEL BOUTCHER.

BROKE into the incloſure of the Subſcriber, in Plumſtead, Bucks county, in the month of Auguſt, 1779, a Bay MARE. The owner is deſired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take her away.

¶1w. MORDECAI MITCHENER.

CAME to the plantation of DANIEL RYAN, living in the Manor of Moreland, on the 19th of this inſtant, a BAY STALLION, between 14 and 15 hands high, trots and canters well, branded C. A. on the left buttock, the left hind foot white, ſuppoſed to be about ſix or ſeven years old next graſs. The owner is deſired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take him away. DANIEL RYAN. * *Nov.* 30

December 6, 1779.

WAS taken up near the Swedes Church, a ſorrel MARE, ſuppoſed to be about ſix years old, without brand or ear-mark. The owner is deſired to come, prove property, pay charges and take her away, otherwiſe ſhe will be ſold in a ſhort time, by

§ JAMES SHILLINGFORD.

Grand Lodge, Phila elphia, November 16, 5779.

THE Officers of the different LODGES of the moſt ancient and honourable Fraternity of *Free and Accepted* MASONS under the Grand Warrant of Pennſylvania, are hereby required to attend a *General Communication*, to be held in Philadelphia, at the Grand Lodge in Lodge-Alley, on Monday, the 20th of December next, at the Hour of *Ten* in the Forenoon, agreeable to a late Reſolve of the Grand Lodge.

By Order of the Right Worſhipful Grand Maſter,
WILLIAM SMITH, *Grand Secretary.*

In CONGRESS, October 30, 1779.

RESOLVED, That the Managers be directed to make ſale of the Tickets of the Third Claſs of the Lottery of the United States without delay; that the drawing thereof commence the firſt day of March next, and be compleated as ſoon as may be; and that the tickets then unſold be the property and at the riſk of the ſaid States. *Extract from the Minutes,*

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

Lottery-Office, November 2, 1779.

IN Conſequence of the above Reſolve the Managers give this public notice, that on the firſt day of March next the Drawing of the Lottery will commence at the Old City Vendue Store, and be continued from day to day with all poſſible expedition until finiſhed. Such perſons therefore as chooſe to become purchaſers are to apply before ſaid date, at the different Offices throughout the United States.

CAME to the houſe of the ſubſcriber, living in Elizabeth townſhip, Lancaſter county, two miles from Stiegle's Furnace, the 28th of September laſt, a black MARE, of a middle ſize, a natural pacer, branded on the near buttock and ſhoulder, but not plain and intelligible. The owner is deſired to come, prove property, pay charges and take her away, otherwiſe ſhe will be ſold in one month from the date hereof.

Nov. 15, 1779. ‡ CHRISTIAN STAHLY.

WHEREAS Mary, the wife of Daniel M'Elroy, of Hamilton's Bane townſhip, York county, eloped from her ſaid huſband on the 2d of Auguſt, and may probably endeavour to run him in debt; therefore all perſons are forbid to truſt her on his account, for he will pay no debts of her contracting after the date hereof. † DANIEL M'ELROY.

Two Hundred Dollars Reward.

RAN away from the town of Reading, Berks county, in the night of the 13th inſtant, a Negroe man named JACK, about 30 years of age, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high; had on, when he went away, a red cloth coat, a white jacket, leather breeches, and ſcollopt hat, but as he has ſundry other clothes with him, it is likely he may change his dreſs; he plays on the violin and other inſtruments of muſic, ſpeaks the Engliſh and French languages, has a ſprightly walk, and is remarkably compliſant when ſpoken to. He eloped ſome time ago from his maſter at Baltimore, and paſſed for a freeman, until apprehended and put in the work-houſe at Philadelphia, from whence he was lately purchaſed; he is a cunning deſigning fellow, and it is likely he may forge a paſs, and travel the country as a freeman. Whoever ſecures ſaid Negroe in any goal on the continent, ſhall have the above reward, and all reaſonable charges, paid by

Birdſborough, Nov. 14, 1779. MARK BIRD.

THE MARSHAL of the ADMIRALTY'S OFFICE is removed to his Dwelling-houſe in Water-ſtreet, next Door but one to Meſſ. James and Drinker's Store, between Arch and Race-ſtreets.

All Perſons indebted for Goods purchaſed of him at Public Auction are earneſtly requeſted to make immediate Payment, that he may be enabled to ſettle his Accounts with the Captors.

JUST ARRIVED, and to be SOLD by

RICHARD FOOTMAN,

At his Commiſſion Store, in Second ſtreet, below Market-ſtreet,

A Great variety of elegant Chintzes, Callicoes and Cottons, Iriſh Linnens, Britannias, Cotton Handkerchiefs, Checks, Stockings, Bohea and Hyſon Tea, &c. Alſo, A large Aſſortment of Knives and Forks.

Said FOOTMAN continues to ſell by Auction, Houſhold Furniture, &c. for Perſons leaving the State, Executors and Adminiſtrators.

A NEGROE MAN to hire out. He is a Baker by Trade, but very handy at all Kinds of Labour. §

THE PURCHASERS of the Real Eſtate, late belonging to *Curtis Lewis*, in Cheſter county, which was confiſcated and ſold agreeable to an Act of General Aſſembly of Pennſylvania, are requeſted to attend at the houſe of Elijah Weed, in Downingtown, on the 4th day of December next, in order to pay their reſpective arrears and receive poſſeſſion of the premiſes. Thoſe who neglect this Notice may expect to forfeit their right according to contract. JOHN HANNUM, *Agent.*

N. B. All the Purchaſers are requeſted to attend at ſaid time and place. *Nov.* 23. ¶

Forty Dollars Reward.

STRAYED or STOLEN, the 23d of November ult. A BAY MARE, 15 hands high, wall-eyed, branded with the letters CA, and ſome ſaddle ſpots on her back, her fetlock joints ſore, having been tied with a rope. Whoever takes up the ſaid Mare, and brings her to ANTHONY BERKINBOYL, or to JOHN MITCHELL, Cryer, ſhall have the above reward, and reaſonable charges. ¶

STOLEN from the ſubſcriber, living in Newtown townſhip, Bucks county, on the 15th of September laſt, a bright BAY MARE, 6 or 7 years old, 14 hands high, a natural pacer, of a low carriage, marked P. on the left ſhoulder. Whoever takes up Mare and Thief, ſo that the owner may get her again, and the thief be brought to juſtice, ſhall receive TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS Reward, and reaſonable charges, or One Hundred Dollars for the Mare. THOMAS HUSTON. ¶

TO BE SOLD by way of PUBLIC VENDUE, on the 15th day of December next, agreeable to the laſt will and teſtament of *Daniel Levering*, deceaſed, late of Whitpain townſhip, Philadelphia county.

A PLANTATION, or tract of Land, containing 100 acres of good Land, on which is a ſufficiency of timber and meadow, a good houſe, barn and other out-houſes, a good apple orchard, a large number of all ſorts of fruit trees, and a well of excellent never failing water near the door; the ſituation is pleaſant, and very convenient, having the Swede's Ford road on the one ſide of it, Morris's road going through the farm, and but half a mile from Samuel Wheeler's grift and ſaw-mill, and ſome others not far diſtant, as alſo near ſeveral houſes of worſhip of different denominations. The title is indiſputable. Any perſon or perſons inclining to view it, may apply to ISAAC MARTIN, on the premiſes, who will ſhew the ſame. At the ſame time and place will be ſold, a cart, plow and harrow, and a variety of other articles. The ſale to begin at 12 o'clock. The conditions will be made known at the time and place of ſale, by HENRY LEVERING and STEPHEN BLOOM, Executors. §

Philadelphia, November 18. 1779.

WAS taken up adrift this day, near the Windmill Iſland, a BOAT, with ſeveral articles in it, ſuppoſed to belong to ſome of the market people. The owner, by applying to WILLIAM WIDDIFIELD, in Spruce-ſtreet, below the Drawbridge, may have it again. ¶

SALE of forfeited ESTATES.

WHEREAS the eſtates of John Roberts, Samuel Shoemaker, Joel Evans, Chriſtopher Sower, Joſeph Griſwald, and Oſwald Eve, late of the county of Philadelphia, having been in due courſe of law forfeited and ſeized to the uſe of this State, We, the ſubſcribers, Agents for the ſaid county, do hereby give notice, That the eſtates of the ſaid John Roberts, Samuel Shoemaker, Joel Evans, Chriſtopher Sower, Joſeph Griſwald, and Oſwald Eve, conſiſting of the following tracts an parcels of land, viz. John Roberts's, No. 1. Three hundre acres in Lower Merion townſhip, one large and ſundry othe dwelling houſes, two griſt mills, a ſaw-mill and a paper-mill with arns, ſtables, and a great number of other buildings of di vers kinds, all in excellent order. No. 2. Seventy-eight acre adjoining the above; a dwe ling-houſe, barn, &c. thereon. Samuel Shoemaker's, One tract of land on Point-no-Point road, in the Northern Liberties, containing about ſeventy acres, ſixteen of which is banked meadow on Delaware; two brick houſes, one large barn, and other improvements. Joel Evans's, about fifty acres, lying on Cobb's Creek, in Blockley townſhip; two dwelling houſes, a barn, ſtable, and other improvements; one moiety only of the above to be ſold. Chriſtopher Sowers's, About eleven acres of woodland on Schuylkill, in Roxborough townſhip. Joſeph Griſwald's, No. 1, About fifty-eight acres on Germantown road and Turner's lane, in the Northern Liberties; on ſaid place is a brick houſe, a good orchard, and about ten acres of watered meadow. No. 2, About thirty acres of wood-land near the above. Oſwald Eve's, one tract of land at Frankford, containing two hundred and two acres; a powder-mill, dwelling-houſe, and other improvements; a good orchard and a large quantity of meadow. All which will be ſold by Public Vendue, at the Court-houſe, on Wedneſday, the Fifteenth day of December next. The Sale to begin at Ten o'clock.

The terms of ſale will be according to law, as follows, *to wit*, One fourth part of the purchaſe money to be paid in ten days after ſale, or the premiſes again to revert to the State, and the bidder liable to forfeit the ſaid one fourth of the purchaſe money. The remainder thereof to be paid in one month; and on a certificate being produced from the Agents, or either of them, of full payment of the purchaſe money, a deed will be given, as by law directed.

And we the Agents do alſo, purſuant to law, hereby notify all the claimants of the ſaid premiſes, or any of them, and creditors of the ſaid John Roberts, Samuel Shoemaker, Joel Evans, Chriſtopher Sower, Joſeph Griſwald, and Oſwald Eve, to exhibit their claims and demands to the Juſtices of the Supreme Court within the time limited by law, or they will be forever barred from the recovery thereof.

Nov. 11, 1779. GEORGE SMITH, THOMAS HALE, Agents.

Philadelphia Manufacture.

TO BE SOLD by the Subſcriber, at his Manufactory in South-Alley, between Market and Arch-ſtreets, and between Fifth and Sixth-ſtreets, on Hudſon's Square, an Aſſortment of Coatings, Blanketing, Saggathies, Jeans, Everlaſtings, &c. Spinners employed as uſual, by

‡5w. SAMUEL WETHERILL, junior.

IMPORTED, and to be SOLD by

HARMAN AND LEWIS,

At their Store, near the Draw-Bridge,

CHOICE CLARET in Hogſheads, in prime order for bottling; white and brown Linnens, Checks, Cambricks, Lawns, Lace, Knives and Forks, &c.

N. B. They will give the higheſt Price for empty Claret Bottles.

A SCHOOLMASTER is wanted in the town of Darby. A perſon properly qualified to teach a number of Scholars will meet with good encouragement, by applying to

HENRY HAYES, Eſq; in Darby aforeſaid.

One Hundred Dollars Reward.

STOLEN from the Subſcriber's plantation, in Deer-creek upper hundred, Harford county, Maryland, on the 9th inſt. A valuable young dark brown or rather black MARE, five years old, 14 hands and an half high, branded on the near ſhoulder IF, a feather on both ſides of her neck, nearly oppoſite each other, and a mealy noſe, paces and trots well, is ſuppoſed to be with foal, and ſhod before. Whoever takes up and ſecures ſaid mare, ſo that the owner gets her again, ſhall have the above reward, and if brought home reaſonable charges, paid by

Nov. 17, 1779. ‡ ISAIAH BALDERSTON.

CAME to the plantation of the ſubſcriber, living in Downs townſhip, Cumberland county, New-Jerſey, on the 12th of October laſt, A Sorrel HORSE, three years old, with a white ſtrip down his face, two white ſpots on his right ſide, a whitiſh mane and tail, about thirteen hands and a half high, paces and trots. The owner is deſired to come, prove his property, pay charges, and take him away ‡

Nov. 15, 1779. DAVID SHEPPARD.

CAME to the dwelling houſe of Vallentine Eyler, living in Manallen townſhip, York county, a Roan HORSE, about 12 years old, about 14 hands high, branded on the near ſhoulder A. and on the near buttock B. is a natural pacer: he came the 19th of June. The owner is deſired to come and prove his property, pay charges, and take him away. VALENTINE EYLER. *

Twenty Dollars *Reward.*

STRAYED away from the Subſcriber, in Oxford townſhip, Philadelphia county, on the 12th of October laſt, a large white COW, with black ſpots, black on the top of her neck and rump, a black ſpot on each ſhoulder, the ends of her ears black, and one ear marked, branded on each horn RS. Whoever takes up and ſecures ſaid cow, ſo that the owner may get her again, ſhall have the above reward.

Nov. 13. 1779. † JOSEPH YATES.

October 12, 1779.

CAME to the plantation of the ſubſcriber, in Letterkenny townſhip, in Cumberland county, about the 23d of laſt September, a White STEER, with ſome brindled ſpots about his head and neck, branded on the near horn IB. about 4 years old. The owner is deſired to come, prove his property, pay charges and take him away. * JOSIAH CRAWFORD.

WAS taken out of the Bar of the Old Ferry-houſe, by a certain JOHN BURNS, about three weeks ago, a new brown GREAT COAT, with horn buttons, dyed tortoiſeſhell faſhion, and whitemetal links; he left an old coat, of very little value, with ſome garlick in the pocket. As there has been full time for him to diſcover his miſtake (if there was any) it is expected he will return the coat ſhortly, or he may depend on it the greateſt vigilance will be uſed in finding him out and proſecuting him. ¶ Nov. 9, 1779.

PHILADELPHIA: Printed by HALL and SELLERS, at the NEW-PRINTING-OFFICE, near the MARKET.

To the CITIZENS of PENNSYLVANIA.

IT is with great reluctance I venture to claim the attention of my fellow-citizens; nothing but neceſſity could urge me to it at any time; but more particularly ſince it appeared probable that our enemies derived hope from ſowing diviſions amongſt the whigs of America. Under this idea, I have patiently and ſilently ſeen my name held out to my country more than once, as if I had purſued a line of conduct inconſiſtent with the general intereſt, altho' I knew the inſinuations to be perfectly groundleſs, and that it was in my power to refute them. I expected that you, my fellow-citizens, would readily diſcover the private reaſons which produced theſe attacks, and, until that moment ſhould arrive, conſoled myſelf in the conſciouſneſs of innocence and integrity. But as the frequent inſertion of my name in an unfavourable light may at length make ſtrong impreſſions on thoſe who are not perſonally acquainted with me, I mean to give a plain narrative of ſuch facts as relate to the charges or inſinuations made againſt me, in as conciſe a manner as I am capable of. The firſt that I remember was reſpecting the ſtate of my accounts with the continent, in anſwer to which I promiſed, in a former publication, either a ſettlement, or a report of a committee on that ſubject. Soon after this a very ſerious charge of a criminal nature was brought againſt me in Congreſs. The matter was fully and minutely inveſtigated, and I not only proved my innocence to the perfect ſatisfaction of that reſpectable body, but even my accuſer himſelf, by examining into the tranſaction, diſcovered a moſt inconteſtible proof of it, a proof that had eſcaped me and the committee who had been appointed on that occaſion: This he candidly introduced before that honourable body, which, together with their unanimous vote of acquittal, rendered my intended publication unneceſſary. I then called on Congreſs, by letter to the Preſident, to appoint a committee for inſpecting the ſtate of my accounts and tranſactions with the continent. This was readily complied with; but as I was engaged in the General Aſſembly of this State, and the attention of the committee appointed occupied by a variety of other objects, the matter by mutual conſent was deferred. Soon after this I received advice that goods which had been detained in the Weſt-Indies for about two years would be releaſed, which has accordingly happened, and I am now receiving and delivering the ſame to the continent as faſt as they arrive. This circumſtance gives me the proſpect of being able to make a final ſettlement of all my accounts, which I conſider as much preferable to any the moſt favourable report of a committee, at the ſame time that it ſaves them unneceſſary trouble. I ſhall therefore content myſelf with wiſhing that every perſon connected with public buſineſs had ſuch accounts as mine to produce.

On the 25th of May laſt a Town-Meeting was held in the State-Houſe yard, and in the printed account of the proceedings of that day I found my name the only one mentioned as a delinquent, and a committee eſpecially appointed to call on me for an account of my connection with a cargoe then lately arrived in this port. I was very unwell at the time, but the committee called on me in a day or two, when I readily gave them every ſatisfaction in my power. They treated me with complaiſance, and appeared ſatisfied; indeed I have been told ſince, that one of the gentlemen declared they were ſo. As they did not call on me again, I wrote them a letter the 26th of June, when the complaint in my eyes began to abate a little, intending then to ſend it: but on being told they ſtill intended calling, I withheld it until this time, and I here inſert a copy, as containing the ſtate of that tranſaction.

Gentlemen, *Philadelphia, June 26, 1779.*

When you did me the honour to call on me about a month ago, agreeable to your appointment by the Town-Meeting held in the State-Houſe yard the 25th of May, you found me afflicted with an inflammation in one of my eyes, that had for ten days preceding rendered me almoſt incapable of buſineſs, and ſuch has been my ſituation from that time to this, or you ſhould ſooner have heard from me, altho' I think it was intimated at parting, by Mr. Smith and Mr. Rittenhouſe, that I was to hear from you again in a few days. It may not be amiſs to mention that, after you had ſignified the buſineſs you came on, I obſerved that by a publication in that day's paper of the tranſactions at the State-Houſe yard, it appeared I was to give my anſwers in writing, and therefore requeſted that your queſtions might alſo be written. Mr. Matlack ſaid, the committee, being entirely ignorant of the tranſactions relating to the French polacre's cargoe, wiſhed me to give a general relation of the matter, to enable them to judge whether it was neceſſary to propoſe any and what queſtions to me, or whether a general relation of my knowledge on the ſubject might not be ſufficient. I replied, that I ſhould cheerfully gratify the committee, having done nothing that I was either afraid or aſhamed to have known. Obſerving, that I conſidered this amongſt the number of thoſe unmerited and groundleſs attacks which I had been uſed to of late, and which I expected would, like the reſt, end to my honour, rather than diſadvantage.

I then aſſured the committee, and now repeat it, that I never moved hand, foot or tongue, to procure the cargoe in queſtion, that I had not ſought after it myſelf, nor employed any other to do it for me. It was many days in this port before I had the leaſt idea of a connection with it, and when it did come into my view, it was upon the application of other people to me. I ſuppoſe it is a well known fact, that many perſons wanted to get this cargoe, by purchaſe or otherways, into their hands; more than one requeſted me to join them, being particularly induced thereto from a knowledge that I could ſupply the ſhip with the cargoe wanted for her return voyage. Amongſt the reſt a gentleman, ſettled in a neighbouring ſtate, a countryman of the ſuper-cargoes, happening to be here at the time, had influence enough to obtain a preference of this much ſought for cargoe. This gentleman came and offered me a ſhare in the purchaſe, agreed to put it entirely under my management, and that I ſhould draw a commiſſion on the ſales, provided I would ſupply an outward cargoe for the ſhip. Theſe offers were generous, and fairly within the line of my buſineſs, ſuch as I preſume no merchant of ability to perform the engagement would have refuſed. But I inſiſted, that if a purchaſe was made, and I to be intereſted, it ſhould be on ſuch terms as would admit me to ſell reaſonably, and leave the concerned a moderate profit.

The gentleman deſired the extent of my terms, which I gave, and as I thought in ſuch clear and explicit terms as did not admit of miſtake. After ſome little time a bargain was concluded, and reduced to writing the 3d of May. This writing is in the French language, which I do not underſtand, but being told it was nearly conformable to my terms, I conſented to receive the cargoe. The firſt thing I did was to ſend for thoſe agents who purchaſe for the continent, and offer them whatever was wanted for the army on ſuch terms as they declared very moderate. I gave them the invoice to pick out what they choſe, and they culled about one fourth the value of the whole, but entirely in articles the moſt ſaleable of any in the ſhip. Before the whole of theſe goods were delivered I had a tranſlation of the agreement, and diſcovered that the parties had not underſtood each other. I therefore ſtopped all further proceedings, and got them together for explanation, when it clearly appeared that my intentions had not been complied with, and that I had not underſtood the bargain in the ſame light the conſignees did, for I had ſold to the public much cheaper than, by their idea of the bargain, they had ſold to the gentleman that contracted with them. Upon full conviction of this, and that the miſunderſtanding was owing to my want of French, and the other gentleman's bad Engliſh, they very honourably agreed to render the bargain void.

After this Meſſ. La Caze and Mallet, the ſupercargoes, aſked me to undertake the ſale of their cargoe as a factor, for it was not probable that they, who were entire ſtrangers in the country, could manage it properly themſelves. I told them, if they would ratify the ſales I had made to the public, I would accept their propoſal, which they agreed to, and by this means the continent had the public ſupplies out of this cargoe very conſiderably cheaper than could have happened in any other way; for had the purchaſe firſt made been clearly underſtood, the agents muſt have paid twenty prices higher, or if I had acted from the firſt as a factor to the ſupercargoes, I muſt have ſold, as I afterwards did, under their direction, and to their beſt advantage. My agreement to become their factor is dated the 11th May, as you ſaw, for I ſhewed you the original of this, and a tranſlation of the other agreement. I believe the bargain was verbally made a day or two before, and from that time I proceeded in the ſales, in ſuch a manner as I judged moſt likely to give my employers that ſatisfaction they were entitled to. Their cargoe being bought dear, the advance on the invoice has not been ſo high as on others, the ſaleable articles were ſoon run off, whilſt a great many, unſuited to this ſeaſon and this country, remain on hand This laſt circumſtance not ſuiting the plans and hopes of the ſupercargoes, they made me new propoſals, but it is immaterial to the public whether I accept theſe or not, as an agreement, after the bulk of the cargoe was ſold, could not affect ſuch ſales, and what remains, beſides being unſaleable, will be as ſubject to regulation as any other imported goods are. After giving you this juſt ſtate of my connection with a cargoe that has made ſo much noiſe, I think you will not heſitate to do juſtice to my conduct, if it appears to you in the ſame light it does to every perſon with whom I have converſed on the ſubject. And as Mr. Matlack intimated that it might not be amiſs to give the committee information of the original proprietors of this cargoe, I ſhall ſend herewith Meſſ. LaCaze and Mallet's declaration on that point, alſo their certificate that I have truly related my connection with their cargoe.

I am, very reſpectfully, Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient humble ſervant,
ROBERT MORRIS.

To Timothy Matlack, David Rittenhouſe,
Jonathan B. Smith, Thomas Paine,
Charles W. Peale, Eſquires.

Philadelphia, June 26, 1779.

We, the ſubſcribers, having peruſed the annexed letter from Robert Morris, Eſq; to the committee, and had the ſame fully and clearly explained to us, do certify and declare that he has juſtly and truly ſtated his tranſactions with us reſpecting the cargoe of the polacre Victorious, as far as accords to our knowledge or concern therein.

LACAZE and MALLET.

We, the ſubſcribers, hereby declare and certify, that the polacre Victorious, her cargoe, and generally all the goods on board of her, were ſhipped by, and are the property of, our family and friends in Spain and France, and that no perſons in America have any concern, directly or indirectly, in them.

LACAZE and MALLET.

Philad. June 26, 1779.

This letter contains the ſtate of that tranſaction, and I ſubmit it to conſideration whether my conduct therein merited cenſure, or deſerved to have my name held out in the light it was. The next attack * on me was made by republiſhing in Mr. Dunlap's Packet of the 3d of June, a piece ſaid to be taken from Rivington's paper, entitled, Memoir in anſwer to the obſervations of M. de la Fore on the bills of Congreſs, &c. dated Edenton, N. Carolina, Jan. 18, 1778, and for the ſatisfaction of my readers I will here recite the paragraph in which I am mentioned. 'Few are convinced by the aſſurances of 'Congreſs that paper is equal in value to gold, aſſertions 'that reaſon and fact deny, and their own members do 'every thing in their power to confute. Mr. Robert Morris in particular has dared to offer to a perſon of 'my acquaintance, bills of exchange upon France at the 'rate of 13 ſols and ſome deniers for a Continental 'dollar.' Who the author of this may be I know not; ſtill leſs his informant; but either the former has been guilty of groſs miſr-preſentation, or the latter of direct falſhood. In January 1778 I had no bills to ſell, nor offered any to ſale. I paid two bills on France in March 1778 for the ballance of an account at the rate of exchange that was current when the money came into my hands, and rebought theſe bills in April or May following at 400 per cent. which was then the higheſt courſe of exchange. The perſon with whom I had this tranſaction now reſides in Philadelphia, and ready to prove the fact. Can it then be believed by any body that I ſhould in January, 1778, aſk a dollar for thirteen ſols and ſome deniers of France, which is equal to an exchange of 1200 or 1300 per cet. If it be ſaid the date is miſprinted, and that it ſhould be January, 1779, I anſwer that I ceaſed to be a Member of Congreſs in October, 1778. In January, 1779, I ſold bills as a factor, the higheſt exchange obtained was 900 per cent. and it never was my practice to aſk 300 or 400 per cent. more then the current price, though I might perhaps produce examples in juſtification of ſuch practices, from a quarter not ſuſpected.

If this writer meant to include me in the paſſage following that I have quoted, he intended me equal injuſtice, for I never ſold to the public any goods but what I imported, nor purchaſed any produce of the country but for exportation.

On the 17th June I was much ſurpriſed at the receipt of the following note: "Sir, You are requeſted to attend "the Committee of Complaints at the Academy, to-morrow at ten o'clock, A. M. to anſwer a charge concerning flour. WILLIAM HEYSHAM, Chairman.

"*Mr.* ROBERT MORRIS, *preſent.* C. Com.

"*Philadelphia, June 17, 1779.*"

To which I returned an immediate anſwer as follows:

"*SIR,* *Philadelphia, June 17, 1779.*

"I HAVE juſt received your note requeſting my attendance on the Committee at ten o'clock, which I ſhould very readily comply with, but am afflicted with an inflammation in my eyes which has confined me for a month paſt; and although it is mending I cannot yet bear the light of the ſun. As I have not for a long time paſt had any thing to do with flour on my own account, except in the purchaſe of a few barrels for my family uſe, I ſuppoſe the complaint you mention muſt have ariſen from the purchaſes of that article made by me for the uſe of the French fleet, and I now have a quantity in ſtore for this ſervice, bought at the requeſt and by order of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty's Agent, of which I am ready to ſatisfy the Committee if they will be kind enough to appoint one or more of their Members to call on me, or if that is not agreeable I will at all events wait on them: But if that is required I would hope that it might be after ſun-ſet.

"*I am, Sir, your obedient humble ſervant,*
"ROBERT MORRIS.

"*To Mr.* WILLIAM. HEYSHAM, *Chairman of the Committee of Complaints.*"

The next day a letter from Mr. Alexander Boyd, ſecretary pro tempore of the Committee of Complaints, was preſented to me, of which the following is a copy:

"*SIR,* *Committee-Room, June 28th, 1779.*

"Your letter to Captain Heytham of yeſterday's date was this morning laid before the committee, who are ſorry your indiſpoſition confines you ſo long, and will with ſatisfaction excuſe your perſonal attendance: In conſequence have directed me to write you notice thereof; ſame time I am ordered to requeſt you will lay before this committee at ten o'clock to-morrow forenoon, or ſooner if convenient, the original inſtructions or agreements by virtue whereof you are purchaſing for his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty's agent, an account of the quantities ſo purchaſed and contracted for, and information by what conveyance and to what places or ſtores ſaid flour is collected, and from what places in the country it has been and is now brought.

"The Committee conſider it their duty to communicate to you the information which neceſſitates them to make this requeſt, and doubt not but you will judge it a ſufficient reaſon for their conduct, viz. Alexander Wilſon, of Earl townſhip, Lancaſter county, reports, that you, through Matthias Slough of Lancaſter, give 22l. 10s. per hundred for flour there, and on oath declares he delivered you ten barrels yeſterday, which he received, by order of Matthias Slough, at Whiteman's mill, Earl townſhip, aforeſaid; and further, that he ſaw Mr. Slough agree with a man at Lancaſter for a quantity of flour at the rate of ſixty dollars per hundred. The Committee perceive how this counteracts the reſolves of the late town meeting, more eſpecially as theſe purchaſes are made ſo nigh the city, and muſt enhance the price greatly in conſequence of the waggon hire, excluſive of a ſuſpicion which prevails concerning Continental teams being employed in that ſervice.

Signed by order of the Committee,
ALEXANDER BOYD, *Secretary, pro tem.*
To ROBERT MORRIS, *Eſquire, Philadelphia.*"

I then laid the whole before the Honourable Mr. Holker, who did not permit me to make the communications required, and therefore I replied as follows:

Philadelphia, June 18th, 1779.

"GENTLEMEN,

"I am honoured with a letter from your Secretary pro tempore, Mr. Alexander Boyd, excuſing my perſonal attendance on the Committee, but requeſting me to lay before you at ten o'clock to-morrow forenoon or ſooner if convenient, "the original inſtructions or agreements "by virtue whereof I am purchaſing for his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty's Agent; an account of the quantity ſo "purchaſed and contracted for, and information by what "conveyance and to what places or ſtores the ſaid flour

* *I omit to notice here a piece which claſſes me with ſome other gentlemen as having influenced the reſentment of Col. White and Mr. Hooper againſt Mr. Serjeant, Attorney-General of this State, becauſe I do not think the author of that piece ſeriouſly believes any of us capable of ſuch conduct. Beſides that I ſuppoſe Col. White and Mr. Hooper too independent of ſpirit to be ſo influenced; and I ſhall only ſay, if that were not the caſe and I had any pretenſions to influence them, I never had any difference with Mr. Serjeant, nor the leaſt deſire to do him an injury or ill office.*

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" is collected, and from what places in the country it " has been brought." On the receipt of this letter I thought it my duty to communicate the ſame to my employer, which I did immediately, with Captain Heytham's note of yeſterday and my anſwer. Mr. Holker, his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty's Agent in this buſineſs, does not think it proper for me to communicate the things you require, and therefore I am under a neceſſity of referring you to him for ſuch further information as you may wiſh. For my part I am very willing as your fellow citizen to give you, and through you, the public at large, every ſatisfaction in my power, becauſe I am deſirous of retaining that good opinion I know my conduct deſerves; and upon this principle I venture to aſſure you, the orders to Mr. Slough for purchaſing flour were dated the 27th of January, and confirmed the 17th of February laſt. He was applied to in preference to any other perſon in that county, becauſe he was already a purchaſer for the continent, which prevented any raiſing of prices by contention, as might have happened had another agent been employed. He was limited not to exceed the prices given by the continent, and deſired either to hire public or private teams as he found the tranſportation might be effected cheapeſt. All the letters I have written to him on the ſubject ſince thoſe dates, were only to exhort him to a ſpeedy and full execution of the order. No other purchaſe has been made in this ſtate except in this city under my immediate inſpection, conformable to verbal orders from my principal from day to day, and this before the meeting in the State-houſe yard. The quantity on hand here is inconſiderable, and I preſume you do not wiſh to interfere in what is done in the neighbouring ſtates. Before I cloſe this letter I cannot omit mentioning that four or five poor women with ſacks under their arms came to me this morning demanding ſupplies of flour, alledging they were directed to me by the committee for that purpoſe, and informed by them that I had received two waggon loads of flour from the country yeſterday. I confeſs this ſurpriſed me a good deal at firſt, but on reflecting a little it ſeems highly improbable the committee or any of the members could be capable of giving ſuch directions, becauſe ſome of them had before been informed by my clerks that the flour under my care belonged to his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, and my letter to Captain Heyſham yeſterday confirmed it; conſequently it muſt be known, I could not deliver it to any perſon but by order of my employers; and I have too good an opinion of your candour to think you would ſend thoſe people where they muſt of neceſſity meet a refuſal, although that very refuſal might raiſe prejudices againſt me.

I am, very reſpectfully, Gentlemen,
Your moſt obedient humble Servant,
ROBERT MORRIS.

To Mr. William Heyſham, Chairman of the Committee of Complaints, Philadelphia."

After this I heard nothing more on the ſubject until the 2d inſtant, when I received a letter of that date from Mr. W. Henry, as Chairman of the General Committee, viz.

" *S I R,* *Philadelphia, July 2, 1779.*

" The incloſed is a reſolution of this day, and is founded on evidence which appears to be inconteſtible. We conſider the intereſt of his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, whoſe ſervice you act in, as unneceſſarily ſuffering, by giving greater prices than there are occaſion for, and in his behalf, as well as for the purpoſe of appreciating our own currency, we can no longer be ſilent ſpectators of practices which tend to the injury of both.

" The Committee, from a point of politeneſs, have incloſed their reſolve to you, prior to its appearance in the papers, which will be to-morrow, and ſhall be glad to confer with you on the ſubject at any time and place you may pleaſe to appoint. An exact copy of this, with the reſolve, is ſent to Mr. Holker.

By Order of the Committee.
WILLIAM HENRY, *Chairman.*

Robert Morris, Eſquire."

In COMMITTEE, July 2, 1779.

" Whereas a quantity of flour has been purchaſed by Jonathan Rumford, junior, of the State of Delaware, under the direction of Mr. Holker, Conſul and Agent General of the marine of France, and Mr. Robert Morris, merchant, of the city of Philadelphia: And whereas the price given for the ſaid flour exceeds the regulated market price, and thereby tends to depreciate the currency of this country, as well as to put our good allies to an unneceſſary expence, both of purchaſe and increaſed commiſſions:

" And whereas it is our intention and determination to ſupport the intereſt of our allies, as well as the currency of our country, and to preſerve the former from impoſition and the latter from depreciation, and in all caſes to do as we would be done by:

Therefore Reſolved, That the aforeſaid flour be detained under the care of the committee, and that Mr. Holker and Mr. Morris be properly notified thereof, in order that ſuch meaſures may be taken as the caſe may require.

" That the thanks of this Committee be given to the Committee of Wilmington, for their information and aſſiſtance reſpecting the above, and that we hold ourſelves accountable to them for one hundred and eighty-two barrels received. *Signed, by Order of the Committee,*
WILLIAM HENRY, *Chairman.*"

This letter and the reſolution having poſitively condemned Mr. Holker and myſelf, without hearing us, I could not think it proper to wait on the Committee after judgment was pronounced, and therefore wrote Mr. Henry a note in theſe words:

" *S I R,* *Philadelphia, July 2, 1779.*

" I have received your favour of this day, incloſing a reſolution of the Committee reſpecting the flour purchaſed in Wilmington by directions of the Honourable Mr. Holker, and cannot help regretting that the Committee did not think proper to propoſe a conference on the ſubject, before they went ſo far in cenſuring the conduct of perſons by no means oppoſed to thoſe deſirable objects, " appreciating the continental currency, and lowering the prices of commodities."

" I ſhould moſt cheerfully have waited on you, and given the information which I think you ought to have been poſſeſſed of before ſuch a reſolve was paſſed. But the reflections in your letter and that reſolution being entirely undeſerved, I have no doubt of being able effectually to juſtify myſelf to the public. I thank you and the Committee for communicating the intended publication, and remain, Sir, *Your obedient humble Servant,*
ROBERT MORRIS.

To Mr. William Henry, Chairman of the Committee of Philadelphia."

It may be obſerved, that I tell the Committee I ſhould moſt cheerfully have waited on them, and given that information I thought they ought to have been poſſeſſed of before ſuch a reſolve was paſſed. In this I meant only information as to myſelf, and the part I had acted in the buſineſs; for Mr. Holker deems it inconſiſtent with the dignity of his Royal Maſter to account for his conduct, as Agent, to any authority not derived from his Majeſty, except in ſuch matters as are connected with Congreſs, or the Government of a State. On converſing with this gentleman on the proceedings of the Committee, he laid before me the copy of his anſwer to Mr. Henry's letter to him, and has given me leave to publiſh it. As it contains a full exculpation of my conduct, I ſhall do ſo. It is in theſe words:

" *S I R,* *Philadelphia, July 2, 1779.*

" I only act in any of the United States of North-America in my capacity of Agent-General of the Royal Marine, under the authority and ſanction of Congreſs, I had therefore this morning the honour of informing them of the tranſaction of the Committee of Wilmington, and of the arrival of the flour to this city. I reſpect your motives, but as I am not a competent judge of the means you employ to accompliſh your wiſhes, I muſt refer you to Congreſs, to whom alone his Majeſty's Repreſentatives or Agents can give any account of their actions. Therefore I can only thank you for your politeneſs and attention on this occaſion. I obſerve with ſurprize that you have ſent a copy of your letter to Mr. Robert Morris, with one of the reſolves of the Committee. This muſt have given you unneceſſary trouble, as I am alone accountable for the purchaſe of this flour, he having only acted in conſequence of my expreſs orders and directions. I am, Sir,
Your moſt obedient Servant,
H O L K E R.

To Mr. William Henry, Chairman, &c."

Had the Commitee thought proper to conſult me before they paſſed thoſe haſty reſolutions, in the preamble to which they not only imply a cenſure of us, as depreciators of the continental money, but inſinuate that it is done for the ſake of encreaſing the commiſſion, I ſhould have ſhewn them that I had nothing more to do in that particular affair than to receive and examine the invoices, and pay for the flour agreeable to order. This being really the caſe, Mr. Holker would have declared it under his hand then as readily as he has done ſince, not being afraid to abide the conſequences of his own conduct; and ſurely under ſuch information, the Committee would not have uttered theſe cenſures againſt me. I would have gone farther, and informed them, that from the firſt moment I agreed to aſſiſt Mr. Holker in the buſineſs of his agency, my advice to him was to draw the ſupplies of proviſions wanted for the fleet from the Continental Commiſſaries, rather than purchaſe them himſelf, alledging that flour was ſcarce, the price not only high but likely to riſe; that if he, under theſe circumſtances, employed one ſet of purchaſers, and the continent another, competition would probably take place between them, the prices riſe rapidly, and the blame moſt likely be thrown on him or his Agents. This advice was adopted; Congreſs were applied to, and orders procured for the Commiſſaries to grant the neceſſary ſupplies. I would aſk whether this advice favours of a deſire to increaſe commiſſions, or implies any practices ſuch as the Committee can be no longer ſilent ſpectators of.

Mr. Holker continued to depend on commiſſarial ſupplies until repeated diſappointments from almoſt every quarter made him exceedingly uneaſy, and he judged it abſolutely neceſſary to make purchaſes himſelf. My advice was ſtill either to employ the Continental Purchaſing Commiſſaries, or perſons of ſuch character as might be depended on for prudent good management: This was agreed to, and purſued in every inſtance, Congreſs, or the Committee of Congreſs for the Commiſſary department, being privy to all the meaſures adopted; and we have never heard the charge of raiſing prices until now. Mr. Holker is poſſeſſed of ample materials to ſupport his tranſactions whenever he ſhould think it neceſſary or proper to do ſo. The Committee ſeem to have conſidered their regulated price of 20l. per hundred for flour as having extended to Wilmington, which is in another government; and it appears they muſt be right, ſince the Committee of that place have agreed to act ſubordinately to them. Mr. Rumford, who bought the flour, I ſuppoſe had not conceived it in that light, or probably he would not have made the purchaſe.

In Mr. Henry's letter to me it is ſaid, " We conſider the intereſt of his Moſt Chriſtiain Majeſty, whoſe ſervice you act in, as unneceſſarily ſuffering, by giving greater prices than there are occaſion for." Certainly the Committee will perceive that they gave too haſty an aſſent to this paragraph, for they ſurely will not pretend to determine how ſpeedily the exigencies of public affairs may have required the ſupply in queſtion; and they cannot but recollect that the regulation of the price of flour did in the firſt inſtance create a ſcarcity, which induced an application from them to the Committee of Congreſs for 100 barrels of flour to ſerve out to the citizens, as they could not get ſupplied otherwiſe at the regulated price.

It ſeems to me that the inſinuation conveyed by the words, increaſed commiſſion, ought not to have been hazarded againſt a merchant of reputation without the fulleſt evidence, as coming from a public body, who will always be more under the reſtraints of decorum than is perhaps incumbent on every individual. I ſhall notice it, but with that decency of language and ſentiment which it is my duty to myſelf to make uſe of.

A merchant doubtleſs has it always in view to increaſe his commiſſions, but he muſt know very little of buſineſs indeed, who thinks to do that by raiſing the price of the commodities his employer deals in, for in this he certainly drives him to employ another Factor or ſeek a cheaper market, ſo that he would inevitably fall the victim of his own rapacity. Several gentlemen of the Committee muſt know that I was many years in the receipt of much larger and more extenſive commiſſions for the purchaſe of produce than at preſent, and as that buſineſs increaſed on my hands until the exports from this country were ſtopped, it is evident that my employers were honeſtly and faithfully ſerved. Why then ſhould it be ſuppoſed I would ſuddenly depart from my former practice and principles, and ſacrifice the intereſt of my employer for—for what? For the increaſe of my property by a trifling commiſſion, which, gained on ſuch terms, would neceſſarily reduce the value of my whole fortune, a conſiderable part of which is in Continental paper, and of conſequence, however ſome men may circulate for their own purpoſes that I am a depreciator of it, my own private intereſt would of itſelf lead me, were I deficient in better motives, to exert myſelf as I always have done to ſupport and raiſe its value. I have called the proceedings of the Committee on this ſubject haſty, they certainly were ſo, and I am confident they will think their cenſures are undeſerved when they have candidly conſidered what I have ſaid.

I am really at a loſs to conceive why my name ſhould, without ſufficient grounds, be ſo frequently mentioned in the public papers, and held in ſuch an odious point of view. It cannot ariſe from any doubts of my attachment to the general cauſe of America, my exertions from the firſt promulgation of the ſtamp act to this day do not leave room for a ſingle ſuſpicion, eſpecially as thoſe exertions were greateſt when our affairs were at the worſt. It cannot juſtly ariſe from any part of my conduct as a private citizen; for near twenty years I was engaged in a very great ſcene of buſineſs, and extended the commerce of this port to places little known to you before my time. This increaſed the demand for your produce, raiſed the value of your lands, encouraged your induſtry, and rewarded your labours. I imported thouſands of good ſettlers into Pennſylvania, after that buſineſs had ruined almoſt all that went before me in it.

With pleaſure I can now look round me, and ſee amongſt my fellow citizens ſome whoſe fortunes I have made; many for whom I laid the foundation of their preſent importance; hundreds whoſe circumſtances I have bettered, and thouſands to whoſe maintenance I have contributed. Aſk thoſe that deal with me, whether I am generous, open, and deciſive in my dealing; aſk the numerous tradeſmen I have employed and do employ, whether I pay them punctually and chearfully; aſk that uſeful body of men who follow the ſea, whether I have not been their conſtant friend and benefactor, whenever it was in my power; and aſk the honeſt labourer whether I have ever ſqueezed a pittance from his hard ſervice. It gives me pain to mention theſe things. It is not from a diſpoſition to boaſt my own praiſes, but a ſincere and honeſt deſire of poſſeſſing ſo much of your eſteem as I know myſelf to deſerve; and certainly the preſent committee ought not to conſider me as an enemy, for I have not only ſold my goods agreeable to their regulations, but have adviſed others to comply with them.

My mercantile character cannot have given juſt cauſe for the attacks made on me, for I have conſtantly ſold off my cargoes as they arrived; and to conſider me as a depreciator of the Continental Money, and at the ſame time as the holder of very conſiderable ſums of it, is too abſurd to deſerve refutation.—However, I muſt add, that I have always paid too much reſpect to the credit of the paper money for my own intereſt. For by making purchaſes of bills of exchange, lands, &c. at prices that now would appear nothing, I might have amaſſed no inconſiderable fortune. Inſtead of doing theſe things, I have freely and liberally ſtaked my property in the export and import trade with various ſucceſs, frequently meeting with ſo many and ſuch heavy loſſes as would have deterred a leſs reſolute trader from continuing the purſuit. The inſtances of my ſucceſs I need not mention, for theſe are counted up by lookers on in a ten-fold proportion.

This I know, that there are people who have made much more without riſquing a ſhilling, and by the few ſmall land purchaſes I have made, I have learnt that in that way alone I might have been a greater gainer, with infinitely leſs trouble and without any riſque.

My enemies at *preſent* ſeem pretty numerous, and they are ſuch on improper motives; for I declare that I am not conſcious of having given any man juſt cauſe for being ſo.

If the diſguſt of any part of my fellow citizens proceeds from my oppoſition to the preſent conſtitution of Pennſylvania, ſurely when they come to conſider, that a freedom of opinion on ſuch ſubjects is eſſential to a free government, and that to act in conformity with our opinions where the object is public good is the duty of a good man, they will pardon endeavours which were well meant, even if founded in error, and in their own zeal on the one ſide, find a reaſonable apology for mine on the other. For I will not ſuppoſe they have been actuated by private views, becauſe I feel nothing in my own boſom to juſtify the ſuſpicion of others. My conduct in promoting meaſures for re-conſidering the conſtitution was by thoſe that oppoſed me acknowledged to be candid, open and liberal; I never was guilty of perſonal abuſe, nor had I any perſonalities in view. I neither wanted or would accept any office myſelf, nor had I any connections to provide for.

My ſole object was to obtain ſuch a Conſtitution as would in my opinion anſwer the ends of good government; and it was to me a matter of indifference what men were in the ſeats of authority, if ſufficient ſecurity were provided for the liberty, life and property of individuals. I am very deſirous of being only a private man, and when I became otherwiſe, it was in obedience to a ſentiment I had adopted, that in times of diſtreſs it was the duty of a good citizen to act in whatever ſtation his country might call him to, and ſo far am I from courting the continuance of public employment, that I ſhall with the greateſt pleaſure reſign that which I now hold to ſuch worthier hands as you, my fellow-citizens, may appoint. While I was your ſervant it was my pride to ſerve you faithfully, to ſerve you chearfully: I have done ſo near four years, and made as great ſacrifices of private intereſt as any man among you. I made them with alacrity. I had and ſtill retain a proper ſenſe of the honour of ſacrificing my property, my labour and my eaſe, to the voice of my country. In your applauſe I ſhall at all times feel myſelf over-paid, and if I miſs of that reward, I ſhall conſole myſelf with an approving conſcience; and I ſhall at all times be ready to give my tribute of praiſe to thoſe more fortunate men, who with greater abilities or better opportunities may have rendered you more eſſential or more agreeable ſervices.

ROBERT MORRIS.

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